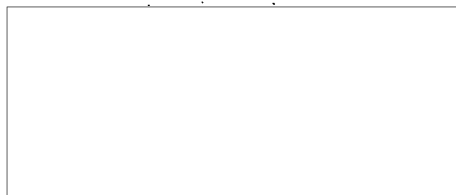


IHSA 81-031

16 October 1981



Dear



Thank you for sending the requested reports so promptly. We are looking forward to your reports and conferences.

You asked for an expression of our interest to assist in guiding your research. Let me first make the observation that we have a strong interest in the security features of hardware and software.



In the software area we are concerned about the security of operating systems and data bases. The DoD has a major program in the OS area, and we are abreast of that. The security of data bases, or electronic files, is not being comparably addressed, however. It involves hardware aspects as well as software, and physical security as well as electronic (How do you secure the data in memory and on hard disks at night?). We are interested in the plans, offerings and capabilities of vendors in these areas.

Other interests that we have are:

- o Computer system architecture involving multiple processor installations which provide very high system availability for on-line, real-time users.

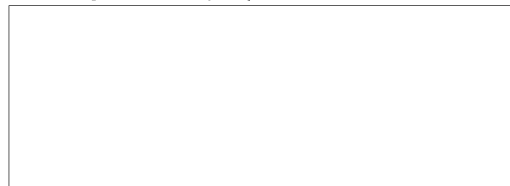
In particular, we are interested in the plans and offerings of major vendors in this area. As a subset of this concern we are interested in fault tolerant hardware and software.

- o Tools to provide increased productivity in applications software development. Included are:
  - Code generators
  - Report writers
  - Debuggers, validators and test tools
  - Languages and language environments which facilitate productivity
  - Utilities, such as data dictionaries and cross compilers
- o Facilities to provide "user friendly" systems for the professional, but non-programmer, user. Included are:
  - User friendly DBMSs, including QPLs, data dictionaries, etc.
  - Computer aided instruction
- o Special purpose processing machinery, including specifically, array processors and data base machines.

Beyond these, I think our interests are pretty much in common with the rest of your clients, judging by your past and planned research offerings.

You indicated that a good portion of our fee was for a call-up research service. You could consider this letter our first call-up. We would like to have whatever you can provide us on the subject areas above. I also commend them to you as subjects for future, concentrated research.

Very truly yours,



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